

LEXINGTON DISPATCH-NEWS

LEXINGTON, S. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1918

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FROM FAIR FIELDS OF FRANCE SOLDIER BOYS WRITE HOME.

TO C. H. V.

By R. E. Vernede.

On one of the scarred battlefields of France Lieut. R. E. Vernede lay down his life—a poet hero of England. Shortly before he wrote this beautiful poem to his wife "C. H. V." It is fraught with poignant meaning and a premonition of his glorious death.

What shall I bring to you wife of mine
When I come back from the war?
A ribbon your dear brown hair to twine?

A shawl from a Berlin store?
Shall I choose you some Prussian
hack?

When the Uhlands we overwhelm?
Shall I bring you a Potsdam goblet
back?

Little you'd care what I laid at your
feet.

Ribbon or crest or shawls
What if I bring you nothing sweet
Nor maybe come home at all?

Ah but you'll know Brave Heart you'll
know.

Two things I'll have kept to send.
Mine honor for which you bade me go
And my love—my love to the end
Today's November Housewife.

Somewhere in France
Nov. 12, 1918.

Dear Mother:

How are you all by now?
I am feeling fine today although
my burns are not doing so good but I
think that I will be out of this Hospital
in a few days.

Ma ma you talk about something I
wish that you could have seen these
patients when they heard that peace
was made yesterday morning. I was
happy myself and know that you
were but you dont know whether I
am living or not but I am and hope
that it will not be long before I will
be back to my dear old mother again,
the sooner I get back the happiest
will be.

Well this is all hoping to be with
you all before long.
Give my love to all.

Your Son,
Holmes A. Shealy,
Co. A. 114th M. G. Bat.
53th Brigade, 30th Division
Somewhere in France.
via N. Y.

Sunday, Nov. 17, 1918.

Dear Mother:

I received your letter the other day
and sure was glad to hear from you
all and to know you all are well and
hope this will find you the same.

You said grand ma was sick I sure
hope she will soon get well and be
able to get about again. You said I
hadn't been writing to you I know I
haven't been writing often but I will
write often than I have been to you
since the war has finished. I sure
was glad it finished when it did but
sometimes I didn't know if I would see
the finish of it or not but I did and I
was glad to see it you bet.

When I come home I can tell you
something that you never heard of
before. I have heard of war but this
will be worth telling to you or any
one else.

Pvt. Artie S. Corley, Hq. Co.
118 Inf. A. P. O. 749, A. E. F.

You said Hamilton was over here
somewhere I sure wish I could see
him I haven't seen but a few boys I
know. I seen Matthew Seay about
two weeks ago. He was well and all
right then. I guess I will stop my
dad writing for this time, write soon
and tell me of all the news you know
of over there best wishes to all. By
By. Write soon.

Somewhere in France,
Nov. 17th 1918.

Friend Rufus:

I know you will be greatly surprised
to hear from me, although I did
promise to write you.

How are you progressing these cold
days? Fine I know. In the same
old way as I was the day I left Lexington
for camp I think I feel better if I am
across the great pond, and long way
from home but I do honestly believe
that I am coming back safe and sound
and old Lexington these days? Just the
same I know, believe me I would like
to walk in on you one day before
long, dont think it will be very long
before we will leave for the good old
U. S. A. I like this country very
well and some parts are very pretty
but nothing to compare with the U. S.
A. You know I like or love the girls
but I cannot put out any love for these
girls ha, ha. Im going to ait until
I make my return, and then look out
you can or will see me around pretty
often. Guess I would like these girls
better if I could talk with them, but
I cant understand half what they say
ha ha.

I have been pretty busy since I ar-
rived on this side, and I like my work
very much. But I do believe its
about over. Over here.

Dont forget but bear in mind that
the boys from old Lexington Co. are
on the job. Where is Alma L. now?
Guess she is still in the office tell her
hello, for me, also Rude Roberts, and
Holly L. H.

Hope you will mention this letter
as you promised.

Respectfully,
GARY A. GOODWIN
Somewhere in France.

2110pd.

Somewhere in France,
Nov. 18, 1918.

Dear Mother:

As it is Sunday night I thought that
I would write you all a few lines. I
haven't been doing anything today
but staying around the stove, it is lit-
tle frosty over there. I am well and
doing fine now and hope that you all
are the same. I have been away
from the company now over six weeks
have been in a rest camp ever since I
come out of the line. But I was to
go out of the camp today but I didn't
go. I want to get back to my com-
pany and get my mail I haven't got
a letter in two months all are at my com-
pany. I know that I must have
about twenty five letters there but I
think that I will get back this week
some time and I will have a reading
time. Well mother everything is over
I am so glad and know that you all
are and the whole of U. S. A.—but I
cant tell how long it will be until the
bos will come back so keep the home
fires-burning until the boys come
marching back Ha, Ha.

I want some of that good old fried
chicken and a fruit cake, about 15
inches thick Ha, Ha. that much is it.
Well you al have done heard the
good news so I have nothing else to
write this time, so tell all hello for
me, best wishes to you all, am your
son.

Pvt. C. Eugene Neese.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE WITH AM-
ERICAN EXPEDITIONARY
FORCES.
Nov. 24, 1918.

Mrs. Joe Fallaw,
My Dear Aunt:

I have some spare time this after-
noon so I will try, and write you a
letter. I have been hiking for some-
time now, but today (Sunday) we are
resting I have seen a part of Belgium
lately and think it a better looking
country than France. I received a
letter from father a few days ago and
he wrote me about the Influenza in
Gaston and about Harry G. death
so sad about him. I do hope they
have it checked and everybody is well
again.

I have not heard from anyone over
here except Father guess everybody
else has forgotten me, Father also
told me about Arnold, now what do
you think about that? Is he still at
Charleston? And are they living there
or at Gaston? Well Dear Aunt I
dont think it will be long now before
I will be back with you and Uncle and
I am longing for that day to come.
How is Bessie and Lou and the little
girls? Well I hope. And brother
James is he still with you?

Give my love to everybody and do
write sometime.

Your Nephew,
Private John F. Craft,
Co. B. 165 Infantry
A. E. F. France.

TUBERCULOSIS CHRISTMAS
ROLL CALL

With the cooperation of the county
and local organizations, the State
Branch National Tuberculosis Associa-
tion is hard at work to gain for
South Carolina, its largest Christmas
Roll Call. The State workers are
eager to receive their full share of
the annual Christmas Tuberculosis
fund—formerly obtained through the
sale of Red Cross Seals—in order
that they may continue their untiring
efforts in wiping out the tubercular
germ in this State.

Arrangements have been made by
the National Association and American
Red Cross whereby a cooperative
plan will do away with the sale of
the popular Red Cross Seal this year.
As a war measure, it was deemed ad-
visable by the Red Cross War Council,
to make an appropriation of \$2,500,000
in lieu of the usual Seal campaign. The
various State Associations will re-
ceive their respective quotas through
the National Association in quarterly
allotments.

The object of the State workers to
enlarge the Christmas Roll Call, lies
in the fact that to some extent, the al-
lotment to be paid into the fund of
this State, depends upon how well this
State participates in the Anti-Tubercu-
losis movement. Its active participa-
tion is judged by its membership. The
Seals will not entirely vanish, inas-
much as the State Chairman will have
a certain number to issue to the newly
acquired members.

Enlist in the war against tubercu-
losis NOW, and let the South Carolina
mails carry the Seals, thereby show-
ing its part in the battle, and especi-
ally to make it possible to continue
with renewed energy, the good work
that has been done in the past.

CANCELS RESTRICTIONS.

The State Council of Defense has
been advised by Bernard M. Baruch
of the war industries board that all
restrictions have been canceled. The
following is the telegram from Mr.
Baruch:

"Effective January 1, all rules, regu-
lations and directions of every nature
whatsoever issued by priorities divi-
sion of the war industries board are
hereby canceled and all pledges hereto-
fore made on the suggestion or re-
quest of the said priorities division
are hereby revoked."

LOST STRAYED OR STOLEN.

One brown pointer puppy about 12
weeks old. Also one pointer puppy
white and black spotted about 9
weeks old. Finder will please notify
me and receive reward.

Hylter Harris
Lexington, S. C.

HUNGER DRAWS THE MAP

- Famine Conditions
- ▨ Food Shortage approaching Famine Point
- ▧ Serious Food Shortage
- ▩ Sufficient Present Food Supply But Future Serious
- Peoples already receiving American aid
- Unclassified

DECEMBER 1, 1918.



A food map of Europe today shows not a single country in which the future does not hold threat of serious difficulties and only a small part which is not rapidly approaching the famine point. With the exception of the Ukraine only those countries which have maintained marine commerce have sufficient food supplies to meet actual needs until next harvest, and even in the Ukraine, with stores accumulated on the farms, there is famine in the large centers of population.

Belgium and northern France, as well as Serbia, appear on the hunger map distinct from the rest of Europe because they stand in a different relation from the other nations to the people of the United States. America has for four years maintained the small war rations of Belgium and northern France and is already making special efforts to care for their increased after-the-war needs, which, with those of Serbia, must be included in this plan, are urgent in the extreme and must have immediate relief.

The gratitude of the Belgian nation for the help America has extended to her during the war constitutes the strongest appeal for us to continue our work there. The moment the German armies withdrew from her soil and she was established once more in her own

seat of government the little nation's first thought was to express her gratitude to the Commission for Relief in Belgium for preserving the lives of millions of her citizens.

Germany, on the other hand, need not figure in such a map for America because there is no present indication that we shall be called on at all to take thought for the food needs of Germany. Germany probably can care for her own food problem if she is given access to shipping and is enabled to distribute food to the cities with dense populations, which are the trouble centers.

England, France, the Netherlands and Portugal, all of which have been maintained from American supplies, have sufficient food to meet immediate needs, but their future presents serious difficulties. The same is true of Spain and the northern neutral countries—Norway, Sweden and Denmark—whose ports have been open and who have been able to draw to some degree upon foreign supplies.

Most of Russia is already in the throes of famine, and 40,000,000 people there are beyond the possibility of help. Before another spring thousands of them inevitably must die. This applies as well to Poland and practically throughout the Baltic Re-

gions, with conditions most serious in Finland.

Bohemia, Serbia, Roumania and Montenegro have already reached the famine point and are suffering a heavy toll of death. The Armenian population is falling each week as hunger takes its toll, and in Greece, Albania and Roumania so serious are the food shortages that famine is near. Although starvation is not yet imminent, Italy, Switzerland, Bulgaria and Turkey are in the throes of serious stringencies.

In order to fulfill America's pledge in relief we will have to export every ton of food which can be handled through our ports. This means at the very least a minimum of 20,000,000 tons compared with 6,000,000 tons pre-war exports and 11,820,000 tons exported last year, when we were bound by the ties of war to the European allies.

If we fail to lighten the black spots on the hunger map or if we allow any portions to become darker the very peace for which we fought and bled will be threatened. Revolt and anarchy inevitably follow famine. Should this happen we will see in other parts of Europe a repetition of the Russian debacle and our fight for world peace will have been in vain.

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

December 15, 1918.

Dear Sandy:

I am writing you to let you know what I want for Christmas. I guess I better tell you something about myself I am a bustling boy to my age I am 5 years old I want you to bring me an automobile and some nuts apples and oranges. I have a little brother baby he is two years old I want you to bring him something for Christmas too. He would like some candy and apples and nuts so you can bring up what you think is best as I dont want you to forget our soldier boys and the little children in Belgium and France. So I am telling you whose boys we are and maybe you wont forget us Mr. James Spires is our father and my name is Herbert Spires and my little brothers name is Heaman so I will close for this time with a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all.

Lexington, S. C.
Dec. 21, 1918.

Dear Santa Claus:

I am writing to you to let you know what I want for Christmas as it is war times. I am not going to ask for much. I want you to bring me a pretty little doll carriage and some oranges, apples, nuts, and other nice things to me. Hope all the little children on the other side will get something. Hoping you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Your little girl,
Ailie Floyd.

Lexington, S. C.
Dec. 21, 1918.

Dear Old Santa:

I guess it is nearly to late to write but I am writing anyway. I want you to bring me some soldiers and a cannon to shoot with and a cap pistol and some oranges, apples candy nuts and other things.

You must bring the little boys over there something hoping you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Good bye Old Santa,
Victor Crump Floyd.

Lexington, S. C.
Dec. 16, 1918.

Dear Santa:

Im a little boy twelve years old. I will make out with the best I can. I want a fountain pen and a watch and firecrackers and fruits and candy. Santa Claus do not forget the children in France.

I hoe you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Clyde Roof
Lexington, S. C.

Lexington, S. C.
December 16, 1918.

Dear Santa:

I am a little boy one year old. I will make out with the best I can. I want you to bring me. A little cart and fruits and candy. Do not forget the children in France. I hope you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

R. E. Roof,
Lexington, S. C.

children in France.

Wishing you success with your trip this Xmas from two little school girls.
Annie Gideon, Thelma Spradley.

Dear Santa:

I want you to bring me a train with five coaches, and a hall and also some candy.

And I want you to bring my little sister Mabel a doll and a leuree pook. I am a little boy five years old and Mabel is one. We both go to Sunday school every Sunday we can.

Will close with best wishes to old Santa.

Harper Snell Jr.

New Brookland, S. C.
Dec. 11, 1918.

Dear Old Santa:

I want to let you know what I want for Christmas I want you to bring me one of them pretty dolls up at Miss Stallings or bring my little sister one to and bring us some fruit and nuts and something of everything that you like and I want you to bring my little brothers what you have they dont know what they want I guess I will close for this time as I have not time to school so good bye now Santa dont forget me.

From your little friend,
Myrtle Mae Meatra.

Lexington, S. C.
December 5, 1918.

Dear Santa Claus:

I am a little girl about 10 years old, and I have one brother and three sisters. I am a little girl and I want you to bring me a big doll baby and some fruit, now, Dear Santa dont forget me, and as it is war time, I want ask for anything else. I will close.

Yours Truly,
D. L. R.

Gaston, S. C.
Dec. 5, 1918.

Dear Santa Claus:

My pen I take to write a line to you. Although I guess you are busy getting letters like mine, so I make my note a short one. I want to thank you, Santa, for the things you brought last year. Now dear Santa as I know there are so many little girls and boys in France that would like for you to visit them I will not ask for too much for I want to remember them over there.

I am a little girl of seven and am a beautiful and my little sister Thelma is five years old and is a blond. Thelma and myself want you to bring us a sleeping doll and a carriage bring us nuts and lots of fruit and for the rest you choose yourself.

So I want ask for any more as I dont want you to forget the little

air rifle, and my sister, Mary Pearl, a ring.

Your little friend,
Mattie Katherine Gibbs.

Swansea, S. C.

Dear Santa:

My little brother wants me to write you a long letter to tell you what to bring us for Christmas, and I guess I better write, too, so you will be sure to bring us what we want most of all.

We want our dear uncle Calvin to come home from the army and next of all I want you to bring all I want you to bring all the little children whose papa is in France, baskets filled with nice things so they can enjoy Christmas like me and my little brother.

Please santa dear, dont forget to bring uncle Calvin to us, you dont know how glad we would be. It has been a long, long time since he has been home so please send him home for Christmas, and bring me a big doll with real hair on its head and bring brother a gun. But most of all we want uncle Calvin to be home on Christmas.

Loise and Charles Mack.

December 16, 1918.

Dear Santa:

I am writing you for some Christmas. I am a little girl will be eight years old on New Year I am going to school every day I can. I want you to bring me a nice doll for Xmas and anything you think is best for I want you to go and see all of the little children all over the world and it is hard times now so I can make out with just a little Dear Santa. Please remember the Dear soldier boys wherever they maybe you no where they are so I will ring off wishing you all a merry Xmas and a happy New Year.

Perllie Spires

DRIVE ON DISEASE PLANNED
BY STATE BOARD FOR 1919

At the meeting of the executive committee of the State board of health on Friday morning many plans for the coming year were made. It was recognized that the year 1919 would be one of strenuous endeavor by all concerned in maintaining the health of the citizens of South Carolina. The demobilization of troops represents many health problems on account of the shifting of men from place to place.

The influenza situation, said Dr. Hayne, is far from satisfactory, and will be a constant source of concern to the State board of health. It is feared that there will be an increase of tuberculosis on this account, so plans are being considered for better care of tuberculosis patients.

Child welfare is the most important business a State can engage in. The statistics of last year show that we are not properly conserving the health of the children. Communicable diseases are neither properly reported nor properly isolated, so that well people are not safeguarded from the sick and there is consequently much unnecessary loss of labor and increase expenditure of money.

The State board of health feels that the time is propitious for spending money to properly take care of the health of the citizens of the State and will ask for a most liberal appropriation.

Plans perfected at the meeting call for an infirmary for negro tuberculosis patients at the State Park, visiting nurses in each county, the organization of better facilities for rural sanitation, a bureau for child's hygiene and a sanitary engineer to be a member of the staff of the State board of health department. An epidemiologist will probably be furnished without cost to the State, by the federal government.

The control of venereal diseases is as necessary in time of peace as during the war, and he board has worked out a plan for such control and hopes to have an appropriation for this purpose from the Legislature. The federal government will appropriate one dollar for every dollar appropriated.

The figures of the recent influenza epidemic show an appalling death rate. Over 6,000 people have died in this State. When it is considered that the total death rate under ordinary circumstances in this State for twelve months from all causes is only 23,000, some idea may be obtained of the extent of this epidemic. It is hoped that in the near future a preventive and a most successful treatment will be found.

Dr. James A. Hayne, State health officer, is much worried over the fact that owing to the illness of the clerk of the board and of the stenographer employed to take her place, the annual report is not yet in the hands of the printer and will be late in reaching the Legislature, however, the Journal of South Carolina Medical Association will be known as a State board of health number and will contain the essentials of this report and a copy will be placed on the desk of each representative. Columbia Record.

TRISPASS NOTICE.

This is to notify all persons that hunting, with or without license, day or night on the lands of the undersigned is strictly forbidden. The law will be enforced against all persons violating this notice.

S. E. Wiggers,
Mrs. Lizzie Wiggers,
Miss Thelma Wiggers,
Mrs. Emma Bonknight,
Mrs. May Reisher.

4w12.

Billy Sunday says, "There's a rainbow in the clouds for you, dear friend, and we'll mother well be there."